

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T PRETORIA 4729

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

FROM LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCEDURAL
ARRANGEMENTS AT POSSIBLE ALL-PARTIES MEETING

REF: LUSAKA 2825

1. GRAHAM AND I HAVE DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL
AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING
WHICH COULD TAKE PLACE AT CHICHELE LODGE IN LUANGWA NATIONAL
PARK, ZAMBIA.

2. THE MOST DIFFICULT PROCEDURAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM
RELATES TO SIZE OF DELEGATION. IN A RECENT TELEGRAM TO
GRAHAM, OWEN SUGGESTED EQUAL PATRIOTIC FRONT AND SALISBURY
GROUP REPRESENTATION. WE BOTH RECOMMENDED AGAINST THIS
TO LONDON. FROM THE BEGINNING THE IDEA HAS BEEN TO HOLD
A MEETING OF THE SIX PRINCIPALS UNDER OUR AUSPICES AND
IN THE PRESENCE OF SECRETARIES VANCE AND OWEN. WE FLOATED
THE IDEA OF EQUAL REPRESENTATION EARLIER WITH THE RHODESIANS
AND GOT A VERY NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THEM. THE PATRIOTIC
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FRONT HAS NOT DEMANDED EQUAL REPRESENTATION AT THE MEET-
INGS. WE DO NOT ENVISAGE A TABLE AT ALL BUT RATHER CHAIRS
SITTING AROUND IN A CIRCLE. WE HAVE THEREFORE SUGGESTED
TO OWEN THAT EACH DELEGATION BE LIMITED TO FOUR MEMBERS:
PRINCIPAL, DEPUTY, SECRETARY, AND BODYGUARD, UNLESS THEY
PREFER REPLACING THE LATTER WITH SUBSTANTIVE MEMBERS.
IF EITHER OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT GROUPS INSISTS ON

ANOTHER PERSON, WE WOULD PROBABLY NOT OBJECT, BUT WE WOULD NOT APPROACH THE CONFERENCE FROM THE POINT OF VIEW THAT THE SALISBURY GROUP GOT 12 OR 14 AND AN EQUAL NUMBER WAS ALLOCATED TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS WILL AFFECT THE POSSIBILITY OF COMING OUT IN THE END WITH A GOVERNING COUNCIL BASED ON PARITY. IN EVERY DISCUSSION WE HAVE HAD HERE IN SALISBURY AND ELSEWHERE ON THE MAKEUP OR COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL WE HAVE SAID WE BELIEVE IT CANNOT BE BASED ON LESS THAN PARITY FOR THE PF. NO ONE HERE IN SALISBURY, THEREFORE, IS UNDER ANY ILLUSIONS THAT BECAUSE WE ARE NOT INSISTING ON PARITY AT THE ALL-PARTIES MEETING THERE IS ANY PRECEDENT BEING SET NOR ANY RECOGNITION OF A GOVERNING COUNCIL THAT WOULD BE LESS THAN THAT.

3. PRESENCE OF LORD CARVER: OWEN ASKED OUR ADVICE ABOUT LORD CARVER'S PRESENCE. THE FIELD MARSHAL HIMSELF HAD FELT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO ATTEND SINCE WE HAVE NOW BEGUN TALKING ABOUT AN AGREED RESIDENT COMMISSIONER AND THE DISCUSSION WILL CERTAINLY AT ONE POINT OR ANOTHER REVOLVE AROUND WHO THAT PERSON MIGHT BE (THOUGH WE ACCEPT THAT FOR THE TIME BEING WE ARE STILL PROPOSING LORD CARVER). GRAHAM AND I AGREED WITH LORD CARVER, SAYING WE FELT THAT HIS PRESENCE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS MEETING AND THAT IT MIGHT POSE SOME
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PROBLEMS. IN TERMS OF MILITARY ADVICE, IF OWEN WANTS SOMEONE THERE, WE SUGGESTED THAT COLONEL REILLY BE BROUGHT ALONG IN HIS DELEGATION.

4. ACCOMMODATIONS: IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS TO BE HOUSED AT CHICHELE LODGE AS WE UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION. SINCE SINGLE ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THE PRINCIPALS AND OFFICE SPACE FOR THE SECRETARIAT AND SECRETARIES VANCE AND OWEN, WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY EITHER TO ERECT TENTS FOR PART OF THE PARTY OR TO PUT THEM INTO THE MFUWE LODGE. THIS LODGE, HOWEVER, IS HALF AN HOUR'S DRIVE FROM CHICHELE. WE ARE INCLINED TO PREFER TENTS AT CHICHELE TO HOUSING IN A SEPARATE LODGE.

5. IN REGARD TO LUSAKA'S SUGGESTION (REFTEL) THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME GRZ REPRESENTATION, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT THIS IS NOT CONTEMPLATED AND WOULD NOT BE WELCOME.

6. FRONT LINE BRIEFINGS: WE BELIEVE THAT A SENIOR MEMBER EACH OF THE U.S. AND BRITISH PARTIES SHOULD PROBABLY FLY TO LUSAKA EARLY EACH MORNING TO BRIEF THE

ZAMBIANS AND ANY OTHER FRONT LINE REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE PRESENT THERE. IT IS OUR THOUGHT THAT THE OTHER FRONT LINE COUNTRIES SHOULD BE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO LUSAKA FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE UK-US TEAM WOULD THEN RETURN ABOUT 9:30 OR 10:00 EACH MORNING. (WE ARE ASSUMING THAT THE AIRPORT AT MFUWE CLOSES AT DARK AND THEREFORE THAT EARLY MORNING BRIEFINGS IN LUSAKA WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO EVENING ONES, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE PROLONGED ABSENCE DURING MEETING TIMES.)

7. THE SOUTH AFRICANS: GRAHAM AND I DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF SUGGESTING TO THE ZAMBIANS THAT A SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE ALSO BE PRESENT IN LUSAKA. I BELIEVE THAT IN SPITE OF THE UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE
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KAUNDA HAD WHEN HE INVITED VORSTER FOR THE VICTORIA BRIDGE TALKS, HE GIVES SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE ALL-PARTIES MEETINGS THAT HE MIGHT BE WILLING TO HAVE A LOWER RANKING SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE IN LUSAKA. THE IMAGE OF HAVING A SOUTH AFRICAN IN LUSAKA DURING THE TALKS IS A GOOD ONE. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT ON BALANCE WE SHOULD NOT SUGGEST THAT A SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVE COME TO LUSAKA. WE KNOW THIS WOULD BE RESENTED BY THE RHODESIANS AND WE WOULD HAVE TO TELL THEM, UNLESS THE REP WERE BROUGHT IN AT THE LAST MINUTE. TELLING THEM MIGHT CAUSE A MAJOR FLAP. WE COULD PROBABLY ASK A SOUTH AFRICAN TO FLY UP IF THAT WERE NECESSARY ANYWAY. WE THEREFORE CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO SEND DAILY TELEGRAMS TO PRETORIA FOR BRIEFING THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT DURING THE CONFERENCE, KEEPING IN MIND THE IDEA THAT IF NECESSARY ON THE LAST DAY ONE OR OTHER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS COULD FLY UP.

8. NOTETAKING: IN ORDER TO KEEP DELEGATION SIZES DOWN AND THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRESENT IN ROOM FOR DISCUSSION AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE, WE ARE SUGGESTING THAT THERE BE A COURT REPORTER PRESENT TO TAKE NOTES WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED AND THAT THIS MINUTE BE AGREED UPON AND AVAILABLE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS.

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